MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sukomal Sen... (*Interruptions*)

DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: I have a very important question to ask I have been ignored throughout. I have been raising my hand on so many questions... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SUKOMAL: I want to know whether the Action Plan on Himalayas has been drawn up in collaboration with the Tourism Department because tourism is an important factor in the development of Himalayas. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether he is concerned with the promotion to tourism also.

SHRI KAMAL NATH: I have not heard his question. He may kindly repeat it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mrs. Sinha, do you want to ask a question? Only two sentences.

श्रीमती कमला सिंहा: महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहती हूं कि हिमालय ऐक्शन प्लान जो मंत्री महोदय ने बनाया है उसमें बिहार के उत्तरी हिस्से को क्यों छोड़ दिया है ? उत्तरी बिहार हिमालय की तराई में आता है । नेपाल में जो डीफारेंस्टेशन हो रहा है, हिमालय की तराई में जो डिफारेस्ट्शन है, उसके कारण वहां बहुत ही साइक्लिक तरीके से ड्राउट और फ्लड आ रहे हैं । तो ऐसी स्थिति में मंत्री महोदय से इस को क्यों छोड़ा, यह मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहती हूं ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Arms Smuggled to Intensify Communal Violence

*464. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Statesman recently to the effect that the Centre fails to react to the specific intelligence reports outlining the plans to smuggle arms to intensify the communal violence in the country;

(b) what is the reaction of Government in regard thereto;

(c) whether Govt. have received the reports within a week of the Ayodhya incident on Dedember 6, but still no action was taken by it;

(d) the steps taken by Government to stop arms smuggling into the country?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Whenever any information is received about smuggling of arms, the State Governments and the other concerned agencies are alerted suitably.

Exploitation of Black Majority in South Africa

*466. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to bring the white minority Government in South Africa and the African National Congress representatives to the negotiating table to bring about a representative Government in that country and to end exploitation of the black-majority by way of practice of apartheid therein; and

(b) with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHUR-

SHEED): (a) and (b) India has been taking a leading part in efforts at the United Nations and in other international fora to promote negotiations between the white minority South African Government and the reprsentatives of the African National Congress, as well as representattves of other liberation movements, in order to bring about demorcatic and non-racial government in South Africa. Since the talks were initiated in December. 1991, despite occasional setbacks, considerable progress has been recorded and India has welcomed the recent decison for full-scale resumption of constitutional negotiations. During this period, we have continued our traditional political moral and material support to the ANC.

Tapti Gas Fields

*467. SHRI ANANTRA DEV-SHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision to allocate natural gas of Tapti Gas Fields to Pipavav if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether State Government has submitted any proposal for developing the Tapti Gas Fields: if so, the decision taken by Central Government theroen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) It has been decided that the gas from the Mid and South Tapti fields has to be brought to Hazira to meet the existing commitments ex Hazira and along the HBJ pipeline.

(b) A proposal had been received from Government of Gujarat in 1991 for development of Mid and South Tapti fields. Government of India have since offered the Mid and South Tapti fields for development by private companies under Joint venture arrangements with ONNC.

National/International AIDS Committee

*468. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the National/International AIDS Committee was held in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, whether the modalities for evolving a multisectoral approach to prevent the spread of AIDS in the country was discussed; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b): Yes, Sir. A meeting of the National AIDS committee was held in Delih on the 15th February, 1993.

(c) The meeting endorsed that there should be a well coordinated effort to generate awareness so as to prevent risk-behaviour which facilitates the transmission of HIV and stressed the importance of associating Non-Governmental Organisations with this effort.

Ayurvedic Medical System in the country

*469. DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN:

SHRI VREN J. SHAH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decide to encourage Ayurvedic Medical system in the country.